

Appln No. 10/760,185
Amdt. Dated November 23, 2006
Response to Office Action of September 8, 2006

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Examiner's further Office Action of September 8, 2006 issued with respect to the present RCE application, the Applicant respectfully submits the accompanying Amendment to the claims and the below Remarks.

Specification

At Pages 1 and 2, the paragraphs entitled "Cross-Reference to Co-Pending Applications" have been deleted and replaced with a replacement paragraphs. US application numbers have merely been replaced by their corresponding US granted patent numbers, where applicable. The Applicant submits that these amendments introduce no new matter.

Regarding Amendment

In the Amendment:

independent claim 1 is further amended to specify that a single controller is mounted by the support frame for processing print data and controlling all of the printhead integrated circuits to print the processed print data. Support for this amendment can be found at page 15, lines 10-31 of the present specification;

dependent claim 6 is amended to conform with amended claim 1; and

dependent claims 2-5 are unchanged.

It is respectfully submitted that the above amendments do not add new matter to the present application.

Regarding 35 USC 103(a) Rejections

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of amended independent claim 1, and claims 2-6 dependent therefrom, is not disclosed by Silverbrook in view of one or more of Lin, Watchko and Wakabayashi, for at least the following reasons.

In the Response to Arguments section of the present Office Action, the Examiner asserts that the shift register, transfer register, enable gate, drive transistor and data inputs disclosed by Silverbrook satisfy the claimed controller.

As discussed above, independent claim 1 has been further amended to limit the claimed invention to an arrangement in which a single controller is mounted to the support frame for processing print data for and controlling each of the printhead ICs of the printhead module. As described at page 15, lines 10-31 of the present specification, this arrangement allows easy replacement and selection of multiple modules of printhead ICs without the need to provide individual controllers and connections for each printhead IC.

On the other hand, the above-mentioned components of Silverbrook cited by the Examiner, i.e., shift register, transfer register, enable gate, drive transistor, data connections, and power connections, are clearly disclosed by Silverbrook as being individually provided for each printhead chip 18 (see page 5, lines 19-22 and page 6, lines 4-11, for example).

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Further, for at least the reasons previously discussed by the Applicant in the prosecution of the present application, none of Lin, Watchko and Wakabayashi provide any disclosure that would motive one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Silverbrook to provide a single controller for all of the printhead chips.

Thus, the subject matter of amended independent claim 1, and claims 2-6 dependent therefrom, is neither disclosed nor suggested by Silverbrook either taken alone or in combination with Lin, Watchko and/or Wakabayashi.

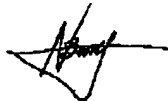
It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

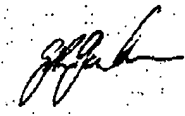
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